Appl. No. 09/942,298 Amdt. Dated 02/28/2006 Repty to Office Action of September 29, 2005

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mendments to the Specification:

Please replace second full paragraph starting from lines 15-22 in the Specification with the following:

The error signal generated by the estimating unit 200 is used in a feedback loop of an integrator to adjust the gain for AGC. One embodiment in particular uses gear shifting to increase the speed of adaptation process when the error is large and to increase the accuracy when the error is small (e.g. near convergence). Gear shifting may be employed by setting a digital comparator which looks at the magnitude of the number of occurrences in which the input signal level, namely the input signal envelope, is either above and/or below the threshold(s) within the time window. If the number of occurrences is higher than a predetermined value then a large step size for the adaptation is chosen.

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